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What the Hearings Teach.  
The hearings on District national  
representation before the House Ju-  
diciary committee have absolutely  
demonstrated certain propositions.

Organized Washington uniting and  
earnestly petitioning Congress for vot-  
ing representation for its people in  
House, Senate and electoral college.  
To amend the Constitution so that it  
become possible for District resi-  
dents to enjoy this distinctive Ameri-  
can right Congress is asked first to  
empower itself in its discretion to  
grant this representation. When by  
constitutional amendment this new  
power is (by vote of two-thirds of Con-  
gress and three-fourths of the states)  
added to the list of the powers of Con-  
gress, then in conformity with the  
second paragraph of the constitutional  
amendment we shall urge Congress by  
majority vote to exercise this power,  
and in accordance with equity and  
American principles, to grant us this  
representation.

The provision empowering Congress  
to act takes District national repre-  
sentation out of inaccessibility and  
impossibility and brings it within  
reach. Subsequent action by Con-  
gress will actually grant this repre-  
sentation and make it a reality.

The organized District is not only  
united to ask for this national repre-  
sentation, but it is united in the  
opinion that the procedure outlined  
for securing this representation is  
blocked by a minimum of obstacles  
and gives maximum promise of suc-  
cess.

The organized District which these  
hearings disclose is no negligible, con-  
temptible community, the mere hetero-  
geneous aggregation in a temporary  
camp of transients of thousands of  
government employees with permanent  
residence in the states, and of others,  
also largely transient, who house and  
feed them and minister to their needs.  
The District has become, compara-  
tively speaking, a homogeneous com-  
munity, a distinct entity, with a vig-  
orous united community spirit and  
with a people manifesting civic loy-  
alty and community pride.

Our business and professional men,  
the educational, scientific, literary and  
artistic elements of our population,  
our workmen in public and pri-  
vate employ, our department clerks  
and other government employees, our  
winter residents in process of conver-  
sion into Washingtonians, combine to  
constitute one of the strongest, most  
intelligent, most public-spirited and  
most American communities in the  
whole republic.

The capital rejects the theory that  
it is merely the temporary camping  
place of transients, to remain for-  
ever a community of defective de-  
Americanized Americans, on the same  
footing as aliens in relation to the  
legislative and executive branches of  
the national government, and on a  
lower plane than aliens (the United  
States Supreme Court says) as suitors  
in the national courts.

Congress will give due considera-  
tion to the appeal for equity and  
American fair play of a community  
more populous than seven states;  
which pays annually eighteen millions  
in national taxes and twelve millions  
in municipal taxes; which sends 18,000  
of its sons to war; which contains per-  
haps approximately 100,000 residents  
of voting age, perhaps 20,000 of whom,  
expensively maintaining a dual resi-  
dence, vote in the states because they  
cannot now vote here at home.

The efficiency and power of organ-  
ized Washington were demonstrated  
in the recent war in a dozen different  
ways: securing soldiers and sailors  
to help to win the war, in applying  
effectively the selective draft, in cam-  
paigns for liberty loans, for conserva-  
tion and for money for the Red Cross;  
the united war workers' drive and for  
countless charities. The power thus  
developed is now evidently about to be  
turned into the campaign for national  
representation.

Nearly all of the citizens' organi-  
zations of Washington, large and  
small, co-operate in the organization  
of the joint citizens' committee on  
national representation for the Dis-  
trict of Columbia.

What the organized District did in  
respect to the enumerated war activi-  
ties it can and will do in a campaign  
for its own Americanization, for the ap-  
plication to itself of the vital principle  
of political equity, upon which as one  
foundation all these other campaigns  
and activities have avowedly been  
based.

What the organized District resi-  
dents did in war-time organization  
shows the community's resources, ca-  
pacity and latent strength.

When we stand together, as we do  
now, to campaign for political equity  
and national representation with the  
same enthusiasm and the same power  
that characterized our campaigns for  
the success of the selective draft, for  
the liberty loans and for the Red Cross  
campaigns and the united war service  
drive we will move forward to certain  
victory.

Solution by the nation of the prob-  
lem of Americanizing the community  
of isolated Washingtonians cannot  
much longer be avoided.

Either they must be taken into the  
American system as national Ameri-  
cans, in some such way as we pro-  
pose in our constitutional amendment,  
with retention by the nation of con-  
trol of its capital, or this control ex-  
cept of the area covered by public

buildings or necessary for national  
purposes must be surrendered, and the  
remainder of the District retroceded  
to Maryland or made into a full-  
fledged state. Or this community must  
be disintegrated as a political entity  
and its people as national Americans  
divided as voters among the states,  
Maryland taking all who cannot be  
placed politically elsewhere through  
claim of residence in another state.

Such of these proposals as involve  
the disintegration and political dis-  
persal of the capital community will  
be resisted to the end by organized  
Washington, which has developed into  
civic consciousness and civic pride  
and must be reckoned with as an en-  
tity.

Whatever the actual solution may  
be the problem must be solved of the  
status—political, judicial, industrial,  
material—a of a populous and intelli-  
gent American community, living at  
the National Capital, but politically  
outside of the nation; and this prob-  
lem is fast becoming, with the notable  
growth of the class of isolated Wash-  
ingtonians, one of the most impor-  
tant and urgent which confront Con-  
gress and the American people.

Premier Briand.  
For the sixth time Aristide Briand  
essays the task of organizing a min-  
istry in France. One of the most bril-  
liant of French statesmen, he has been  
repeatedly called upon in crises to  
create cabinets. He is possessed of  
positive views, but is an adept in  
the art of political management and  
at this juncture, though faced with  
a strong sentiment in the deputies in  
favor of a more aggressive policy  
toward Germany in the matter of  
treaty enforcement than he is willing  
to pursue, he may win through by  
appeals to the patriotism of the leg-  
islators.

Had President Millerand followed  
the line of the deputies' desire he  
would have called former President  
Poincare to the head of the ministry.  
Poincare favors a positive enforce-  
ment of the indemnity and reparations  
provisions of the treaty. In this he  
has the support of a majority of the  
chamber, and he could probably  
without difficulty form a ministry that  
could command a substantial support.  
But Briand does not feel that such  
a policy is wise at this time. It is  
not favored by England, for one thing,  
and England and France have already  
drifted somewhat apart, and it is the  
desire of the more conservative forces  
in France to keep from further separa-  
tion.

Of those named in the list presented  
by M. Briand to the president yester-  
day few are well known in this coun-  
try. Probably those most familiar are  
MM. Bonnevay and Barthou, respec-  
tively: ministers of justice and  
war. The question arises whether  
such a ministry will be but a replica-  
tion of the Leygues' cabinet, which  
Lloyd George is reported to have char-  
acterized as composed of "nobodies."  
But Briand himself claims for it es-  
pecial strength. Possibly he refers to  
political strength in the chamber,  
where numerous groups must be pla-  
ced and held in support for a gov-  
ernmental "bloc." Herein lies one of  
the difficulties of the French system  
of government. No ministry is  
stronger, in effect, than its weakest  
member, for if a single minister in-  
curs the displeasure of a majority of  
the chamber he must be displaced or  
the entire cabinet faces a vote of dis-  
approval and consequent dissolution.  
Briand has demonstrated in the past  
that he is a master at adjustment,  
thought not wanting in positive force.  
He has one of the hardest tasks ever  
assigned to a French statesman and  
the best wishes of the American peo-  
ple go to him at this crisis.

Elimination of waste in industry is  
sought by Mr. Hoover. It is an old  
problem whose solution is beginning  
to be as doubtful as that of perpetual  
motion itself.

There is a desire in Europe for sim-  
pler passport rules. A disentangle-  
ment of red tape restrictions is recog-  
nized as more or less desirable the  
world over.

Germany's attitude toward disarm-  
ament has always been favorable  
when it was considered as a foreign  
policy, but never as a local issue.

Lenin has been made nervous by  
attempts at assassination. Trotsky's  
position at the front may have been  
less dangerous, after all.

No nation admits a desire for war.  
Every nation that ever went to war  
insisted that war was forced upon it.

One of the inevitable elements of  
wastage in a nation's affairs is a large  
amount of untaken advice.

Will Speak for Himself.

Addressing the Ohio Society of New  
York Saturday night, Senator Willis,  
in referring to Mr. Harding, said that  
"that non-existent figure of a po-  
litical brain, the so-called Senate  
oligarchy, and no individual, faction,  
clique or ring can speak for him."  
And the senator proceeded in these  
terms:

"I am not his mouthpiece nor will  
any other man have that honor. His  
acts as a great Ohio President will  
speak for themselves. He will wel-  
come illuminating information from  
every legitimate source. To him a  
bricklayer and a banker will have  
the same right. There is wisdom to be  
gathered from each. But having  
taken counsel, as befits the chief  
executive of a country never intend-  
ed to be a one-man country, the de-  
cision will be his."

A good deal of rubbish circulates  
about every President. He is sup-  
posed to have, and accused of having,  
many "confidential men" in his em-  
ploy. If a senator or representative  
in Congress on cordial terms with the  
occupant of the White House makes  
a notable speech in support of a mea-  
sure agreeable to the administration,  
he is represented in gossip as having  
been "inspired" for the occasion.

If a newspaper supports an admin-  
istration measure with a vigor that  
attracts general attention, its articles  
are tagged as an "organ." The country is in a humor to ac-  
cept Mr. Willis' predictions. Mr.  
Harding's stock is high. He will start

as President with the most impres-  
sive backing as to size in our history.  
The people in enormous numbers have  
planned their faith to him, and will not  
be easily influenced to believe that  
he is other than the man of inde-  
pendence and resolution they voted  
for in November.

The Sea Flight to Panama.

Twelve of the fourteen naval sea-  
planes which started from San Diego  
have arrived at the Canal Zone. The  
other two will probably complete the  
flight later. The distance covered  
was about 3,200 miles and was com-  
pleted in seventeen flying days. This  
is one of the longest flights on record,  
but not a particularly notable one in  
point of time. As a means of quick  
passage from a continental naval base  
to the canal it is not an impressive  
demonstration. But it had its value  
in that it blazed a route to the isthm-  
us, inasmuch as this "ground" had  
never been flown over before. It  
proved to be very rough, the flyers  
encountering squalls in several places,  
especially in crossing the gulf of Te-  
huantepec. One man was killed by an  
accident in tuning up a motor. One  
plane was forced to descend in the  
course of a flight owing to casual en-  
gine trouble. The flyers were accom-  
panied along the route by destroyers  
and tenders, for it was thought best  
not to risk shortage of fuel and other  
service in the course of the flight.  
Most of this country is wild and unin-  
habited. Naturally the machines  
kept mostly over the sea, as they are  
hydroplanes, which cannot make a  
landing on the ground. Eventually  
probably these flights will become fre-  
quent and stations will be established  
along the way, permitting unattended  
progress. The real test of the air-  
plane, of whatever variety, lies in its  
following of a long set course without  
reliance upon tenders or special fa-  
cilities and seeking to make the quick-  
est time.

A famous opera singer proposes to  
make Chicago the world's music cen-  
ter. Chicago's literary and artistic  
ambitions have long been famous and  
she has steadily accumulated the  
financial resources calculated to ren-  
der her competent in that most im-  
portant capacity of financial backer.

A calm, impartial view of the quar-  
rel of the balloon lads must take into  
consideration the fact that experi-  
ences such as theirs are calculated  
to spoil, temporarily, the loveliest of  
dispositions.

People who want to adopt one of  
Admiral McQuay's wife may find  
solace for their disappointments by  
the fact that there are many more  
waifs where those came from.

According to Beveridge's "Life of  
John Marshall," Jeffersonian "sim-  
plicity" manifested itself in Jeffers-  
on's personal customs, but not in his  
politics.

One of the biggest problems Ger-  
many has to face in her era of cur-  
rency inflation is the "sound money"  
question, which caused so much con-  
cern in the minds of our grandfathers.

Viviani says that compliments  
breed only insincerity. The frank  
acerbities of a presidential campaign  
may have some value, after all.

Interest in America's friendship re-  
mains alert even though there may  
be some delay in the league of nations  
initiation.

Lenin hopes, no doubt, to prove  
more efficient as an economist than  
he was as a terrorist.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Prices, and Temperature.  
Cost of living going down!  
Sing a song of glory!  
Wake 'em up in every town  
As we tell the story.  
Let us curb the profiteer  
Who might something rude do,  
With his incantations queer  
In financial voodoo.

Temperature is going down.  
Winter time is hoary.  
Nature now assumes a frown.  
That's obligatory!  
As the bitter chill draws near,  
A climatic hoodoo,  
Hope the prices will appear  
Dropping fast as you do.

Confusion.  
"We ought to bring sunshine into  
the lives of our fellowmen."  
"Yes," replied Uncle Bill Bottletop.  
"The trouble is that too many people  
mistake moonshine for sunshine."

The Real Relief.  
Advice, a remedy refined,  
Doth bring, beyond a doubt,  
The most relief unto the mind  
Of him who gives it out.

Interest Secure.  
"I don't believe Josh is interested  
in the dear old home," remarked  
Farmer Cornstossel sadly.  
"Yes, he is," replied Josh's mother,  
"and he's going to keep on being in-  
terested regardless of pleasures and  
palaces, so long as the old home is  
the only place where three meals per  
day are absolutely reliable."

In All Modesty.  
"I suppose you think you know ex-  
actly how this government ought to  
be run," remarked the man who never  
speaks save with a slight sneer.  
"No," replied Senator Sorghum, "I  
don't pretend to know how it ought  
to be run. Only, on seen' the mis-  
takes other fellers make I get kind  
of reconciled to takin' a chance on  
some of my own."

An Uncertainty.  
"Father," said the small boy, "what  
is a soviet?"  
"That, my son, is not for you or me  
to say. What a soviet is depends en-  
tirely on the decision of the political  
boss who happens to be running it."

## Editorial Digest

### A Simple Inauguration.

Elaborate ceremonies and gay festi-  
vities are evidently not the Ameri-  
can idea of a fitting inauguration for  
a new President if we may judge by  
the press comment on Mr. Harding's  
refusal to permit display on the oc-  
casion of his becoming President. His  
plea for simplicity for simplicity's  
sake is interpreted by many papers  
as a further insight into the demo-  
cratic character of the man, while his  
insistence on practicing in this wise  
the thrift to which he stands com-  
mitted is almost universally ap-  
proved. There are, however, many  
papers which defend the custom of  
making inauguration a national gala  
day, and which justify the showing the  
evident sincerity of Mr. Harding's po-  
sition, feel that the celebration should  
not fall into disuse.

"Ostentatious display" of the kind  
which, report said, was being planned  
in Washington has no place in our  
country, the New Haven Journal-Cur-  
rier (independent) declares, "because  
there is nothing more absurd on the face  
of the earth than the display of royalty  
in the inauguration of an American  
President. The Fort Wayne Journal-  
Gazette (democratic) agrees that "there  
is no reason why it should be one of  
simplicity and sobriety and dignity."  
We are still, however, "barbarian  
enough," as the New York Globe (in-  
dependent) sees us, to want "ceremo-  
nial" even "approach toward sim-  
plicity is a gain, and Mr. Harding has  
thrown his influence in the right di-  
rection." His position is "typical of  
this man who conducted a national  
campaign from the front porch of a  
village home," the Grand Rapids  
(Mich.) Herald (republican) believes.  
And the Bridgeport Post (independent)  
adds, it has reassured the nation  
"that the judgment of the personal  
character of Warren G. Harding was  
not wrong." The incident furnishes  
the "highly interesting proof" to the  
New York Evening Post (independent)  
"that Mr. Harding can put his foot  
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But the affair, in the opinion of the  
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